

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA REDWOOD SHORES, CALIFORNIA DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA REPLY TO: SUITE 700

333 TWIN DOLPHIN DRIVE REDWOOD SHORES, CA 94065

TELEPHONE:

+1-650-622-2300

FACSIMILE:

+1-650-622-2499

DATE: October 31, 2000

RECIPIENT INFORMATION		SENDER INFORMATION		
То:	Examiner Neil Abrams Group Art Unit: 2839 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office	From:	Kevin H. Fortin	
Voice Tel. No.:	(703) 308-1729	Voice Tel. No.:	(650) 622-2338	
Fax Tel. No.:	(703) 308-7722	Sent By:	Helen Panelo	
Your Ref.:		Our Ref.:	033129-001	
		Total Pages (Incl. This Cove	r Page):	2

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/182,842 filed October 29, 1998

MESSAGE: Please see attached.

RE:

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P. 02/02 H17/Pre and F Shawy

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING TRANSMITTED VIA FACSIMILE TO THE ATTENTION OF EXAMINER N. ABRAMS AT THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE AT (703) 308-7722.

Date: Oct. 31, 2000 By

Helen Panelo

Patent

Attorney's Docket No. 033129-001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

)
) Group Art Unit: 2839
) Examiner: N. Abrams
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AFTER REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and Amendment and Notification of Change of Address of Attorney submitted on October 12, 2000.

In the Claims:

In claim 1, line 5, insert -- after the word "bay" and delete the word "in".

In claim 7, line 5, insert --, -- after the word "bay" and delete the word "in".

In claim 1/3, line 4, change the word "firing" to "fixing"; in line 5, insert --, -- after the word "bay" and delete the word "in".

REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that the above changes be made of record.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: Nevin H. Bortin

P.O. Box 1404 Registration No. 35,140 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404 (703) 836-6620

Date: October 31, 2000